

Dear Members of Labor and Public Employees Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Zenida Gonzalez and I live in Bridgeport, Connecticut. I support Senate Bill No. 1178: An Act Expanding Connecticut Paid Sick Days.

Paid sick leave can reduce stresses on the average employee not only for themselves, but for young children who depend solely on the parent when a child is sick.

For an average worker missing one day of work can alter a budget for a whole month so it forces employees to work while sick endangering co workers when a paid sick leave will benefit the company and the employee

This is why I support an expansion of Paid Sick Days as outlined in S.B. 1178:

1. Cover all workers regardless of employer size or industry!
2. Eliminates the waiting period to take a paid sick day from 680 hours to immediately after you start working!
3. Include all types of family structures and relationships which will allow workers to care for a child of any age, as well as their chosen family! The bill would also allow you to take paid sick time to care for a family member who experiences family violence or sexual assault.
4. Increase the number of hours of paid sick time workers can accrue and use per year from 40 to 80 hours.
5. Protect against future pandemics by allowing paid sick time to be used when a worker's place of work or child's school/place of care is closed by public officials for a public health emergency!

Thank you for your time,
Zenida Gonzalez Bridgeport, CT